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(REV 11-2000)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

100726-28 / Metal 1284-KGB

U.S. APPLICATION NO. IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR

107030802

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/EP00/04960

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
31 May 2000 (31.05.00)

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
15 July 1999 (15.07.99)

TITLE OF INVENTION

PROCESS OF PRODUCING C₂- TO C₄-OLEFINS FROM A FEED MIXTURE CONTAINING C₄- TO C₈-OLEFINS

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Ulrich KOSS, Martin ROTHAEML, and Peter KONIG

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (24) indicated below.
4. ☒ The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2))
 - a. ☐ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
 - a. ☒ is attached hereto.
 - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
10. ☐ An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).
11. ☒ A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).
12. ☒ A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).

Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:

13. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
14. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
16. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
17. ☐ A substitute specification.
18. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
19. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.
20. ☒ A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
21. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
22. ☒ Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail
23. ☒ Other items or information:

Copy of the PCT Request

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

107030802

PCT/EP00/04960

100726-28 / Metal

24. The following fees are submitted:

CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY

BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) :

- ☐ Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1040.00
- ☒ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$890.00
- ☐ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$740.00
- ☐ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$710.00
- ☐ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00

ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =

\$890.00

Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).

\$0.00

CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE
Total claims	5 - 20 =	0	x \$18.00
Independent claims	1 - 3 =	0	x \$84.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable).			<input type="checkbox"/>

\$0.00

TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =

\$890.00

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.

\$0.00

SUBTOTAL =

\$890.00

Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).

\$0.00

TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =

\$890.00

Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) (check if applicable).

\$0.00

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =

\$890.00

Amount to be:
refunded \$
charged \$

- a. ☐ A check in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.
- b. ☒ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 14-1263 in the amount of \$890.00 to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-1263. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- d. ☐ Fees are to be charged to a credit card. **WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. **Credit card information should not be included on this form.** Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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SIGNATURE

Kurt G. Briscoe

NAME

33,141

REGISTRATION NUMBER

DATE

10/030802
531 Rec'd PCT/PTC 11 JAN 2002

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Date Mailed: 1-11-02

Metal 1284-KGB

99 00 25 US / A 7951

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : ULRICH KOSS ET AL
SERIAL NO. : TO BE ASSIGNED
INTERNATIONAL
APPLICATION NO. : PCT/EP00/04960
FILED : HEREWITH
FOR : PROCESS OF PRODUCING C₂- TO C₄-OLEFINS FROM A
FEED MIXTURE CONTAINING C₄- TO C₈-OLEFINS
ART UNIT : TO BE ASSIGNED
EXAMINER : TO BE ASSIGNED

January 11, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Insert as the first paragraph of the specification the following new paragraph: -- This application is a 371 of PCT/EP00/04960 filed on May 31, 2000.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3 and 4 as follows:

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3. The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the product mixture coming from the cooling means (6) has a temperature of 60 to 200°C and a pressure of 0.5 to 3 bar and is still vaporous.
4. The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the feed mixture supplied to the mixing chamber contains hydrocarbons with more than 8 C-atoms per molecule, that the mixing chamber is designed as column with a gas- and liquid-permeable packing, that the feed mixture is supplied onto the upper portion of the packing, and C₄- to C₈-olefins from the feed mixture are evaporated with a partial amount of the steam supplied to the column in the lower portion of the packing and are withdrawn from the column together with the steam.

REMARKS

The amendments above eliminate multiple dependencies, and place the claims in better form for U.S. examination.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NORRIS, McLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.

By

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**MARK-UP SHOWING THE CHANGES MADE IN THE PREVIOUS CLAIM TO
YIELD THE CLAIM AS AMENDED ABOVE**

3. The process as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], characterized in that the product mixture coming from the cooling means (6) has a temperature of 60 to 200°C and a pressure of 0.5 to 3 bar and is still vaporous.
4. The process as claimed in claim 1 [or any of the preceding claims], characterized in that the feed mixture supplied to the mixing chamber contains hydrocarbons with more than 8 C-atoms per molecule, that the mixing chamber is designed as column with a gas- and liquid-permeable packing, that the feed mixture is supplied onto the upper portion of the packing, and C₄- to C₈-olefins from the feed mixture are evaporated with a partial amount of the steam supplied to the column in the lower portion of the packing and are withdrawn from the column together with the steam.

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11 JAN 2002

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A 7951

Metallgesellschaft AG
Bockenheimer Landstr. 73-77

D-60325 Frankfurt/Main

Case No. 99 00 25

Process of Producing C₂- to C₄-Olefins from a
Feed Mixture Containing C₄- to C₈-Olefins

Description

This invention relates to a process of producing C₂- to C₄-olefins from steam and a feed mixture containing C₄- to C₈-olefins, wherein the feed mixture containing steam is introduced into a reactor with an inlet temperature of 300 to 700°C, said reactor comprising a bed of granular, form-selective zeolite catalyst, and wherein a product mixture containing steam and C₂- to C₄-olefins is withdrawn from the bed and is passed through at least one cooling means.

Such process is known from DE 196 48 795 A1. It is the object underlying the invention to further develop this process and to operate at costs as reasonable as possible. In accordance with the invention, this is achieved in the above-mentioned process in that the vaporous product mixture coming from the cooling means is pressurized and the pressure of the product mixture is increased by 0.3 to 7 bar, preferably by at least 1 bar, that the pressurized product mixture is passed through an indirect heat exchanger, and the product mixture is cooled therein to such an extent that a water-rich condensate is produced by releasing heat of condensation, that the product

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mixture containing condensate is introduced into a separator from which a water-rich condensate and, separate therefrom, a vaporous product mixture containing C₂- to C₄-olefins is withdrawn, that water-rich condensate coming from the separator is expanded and evaporated in the indirect heat exchanger by utilizing the heat of condensation previously released during condensation, that at least part of the steam from the indirect heat exchanger is introduced into a mixing chamber to which the feed mixture containing C₄- to C₈-olefins is supplied, and that from the mixing chamber a mixture is withdrawn which is heated and introduced into the reactor.

In the process in accordance with the invention, the condensation temperature is increased by increasing the pressure by 0.3 to 7 bar and preferably by at least 1 bar, so that water-rich condensate is obtained already upon cooling to the elevated condensation temperature. The water-rich condensate coming from the separator is expanded by a pressure difference of 0.3 to 7 bar, so that its evaporation temperature decreases below the condensation temperature which had previously been raised by compression. Thus, it is achieved that the amount of heat produced during condensation can directly be reused for evaporating the water-rich condensate.

The mixture of steam and hydrocarbons supplied to the reactor expediently contains these components in a weight ratio of 0.5:1 to 3:1. In the reactor, the granular zeolite catalyst is arranged in the form of a bed. The grain sizes of the catalyst usually lie in the range from 1 to 8 mm. The zeolite is of the pentasil type, it has form-selective properties. In the catalyst, the atomic ratio Si:Al lies in the range from 10:1 to 200:1. The primary crystallites of the aluminosilicate preferably have a narrow grain-size distribution with diameters in the range from 0.1 to 0.9 μm ; the BET-surface usually lies in the range from 300 to 600 m^2/g , and the pore volume (according to mercury porosimetry) is about 0.3 to 0.8

cm³/g. Alumina trihydrate preferably is used as binder to keep the primary crystallites together.

The feed mixture to be processed, which contains C₄- to C₈-olefins, may vary in a wide range, it may for instance be light gasoline from a catalytic cracking plant or a raffinate from the product of a steam cracker. The feed mixture may also contain hydrocarbons with more than 8 C-atoms per molecule, with these higher-boiling components preferably being removed, at least in part, before reaching the reactor. The separation need, however, not be performed completely, since longer-chain molecules are not detrimental to the conversion in the reactor, but above all represent superfluous ballast only. If one intends to separate the longer-chain olefins in the mixing chamber, it is recommended to design the mixing chamber as a column with a gas- and liquid-permeable packing and to pass the feed mixture onto the upper portion of the packing. At the same time, a partial amount of the steam is introduced into the lower portion of the packing, this partial amount being selected such that the C₄- to C₈-olefins from the feed mixture are evaporated and are removed from the column together with the steam. The higher-boiling hydrocarbons remain in the column completely or to a large extent and are withdrawn from the bottom thereof together with water that has formed.

Embodiments of the process will be explained by means of the drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 shows a flow diagram of the process, and
Fig. 2 shows a modification of the process of Fig. 1.

In accordance with Fig. 1, the feed mixture containing C₄- to C₈-olefins is introduced through line (1) into column (2) serving as mixing chamber, which comprises a packing (3) of gas- and liquid-permeable elements, e.g. trays. At the same,

time, steam is supplied through line (4), which steam enters the packing (3) from below and in so doing evaporates the feed mixture, entraining it to the top of the column (2). The mixture of feed mixture and steam flows through line (5) to a heat exchanger (6) in which the temperature of the mixture is increased. Finally, the mixture flows through line (7) to a heater (8) which may be fired or operated electrically, and leaves the same with a temperature in the range from 300 to 700°C, preferably 400 to 600°C. With this temperature, the mixture is introduced through line (9) into the reactor (10) which contains a bed (11) of a form-selective zeolite catalyst of the pentasil type. The Si:Al atomic ratio of the zeolite lies in the range from 10:1 to 200:1. The composition of the feed mixture which is introduced through line (9) into the reactor (10) may vary, and it is recommended to adjust the content of aromatics, calculated anhydrous, to not more than 20 wt-%, preferably to not more than 10 wt-%. This is recommendable because a higher content of aromatics results in a premature deactivation of the catalyst due to carbon deposits. Furthermore, the feed mixture should expediently be free from components having threefold C-C-bonds or conjugated double bonds, since they likewise deactivate the catalyst.

The conversion in the reactor (10) is effected adiabatically, so that from the bed a product mixture is withdrawn whose temperature is 20 to 80°C lower than the inlet temperature. The added content of ethylene, propylene and butene isomers in the product mixture withdrawn via line (12) is at least 60 wt-% and preferably at least 70 wt% of the olefinic constituents of the feed mixture. It is recommended to operate the reactor at relatively low pressures in the range from 0.2 to 3 bar. Usually, the pressures in the reactor lie in the range from 0.6 to 1.5 bar.

The product mixture of line (12) releases part of its heat in the heat exchanger (6), and it usually leaves the heat ex-

changer via line (13) with a temperature in the range from 60 to 200°C and a pressure in the range from 0.5 to 3 bar. In the compressor (14), the pressure of the vaporous product mixture is increased by 0.3 to 7 bar and mostly by at least 1 bar; with the temperature at which condensate is formed also being increased. Through line (13a) the pressurized mixture flows to the indirect heat exchanger (15). In the heat exchanger (15), intensive cooling is provided, and water-rich condensate from line (16) serves as cooling medium. This condensate evaporates, and the steam formed is introduced through line (4) into the column (2). In the product mixture coming from the compressor (14), water-rich condensate is formed through cooling in the indirect heat exchanger (15). The product mixture is introduced through line (17) into a separator (18), and the desired product containing C₂- to C₄-olefins is withdrawn therefrom through line (19), which product may also be supplied to a subsequent cleaning not represented here. The water-rich condensate obtained in the separator (18) flows through line (20) first of all to an expansion valve (21) where it is expanded by a pressure difference of 0.3 to 7 bar. The condensate is cooled further, and its evaporation temperature is decreased. The further utilization of this condensate via line (16) has already been explained.

The process variant of Fig. 2 relates to the processing of a feed mixture supplied via line (1), which apart from C₄- to C₈-olefins also contains higher-boiling components. As far as Fig. 2 uses the same reference numerals as Fig. 1, these have the meaning already explained in connection with Fig. 1. From the indirect heat exchanger (15) steam is withdrawn via line (4) which is divided into lines (4a) and (4b). The amount of steam flowing in line (4a) is sufficient to evaporate the C₄- to C₈-olefins supplied via line (1) in column (2), but where the higher-boiling hydrocarbons are not evaporated to a large extent and together with water are accumu-

lated as liquid in the bottom of column (2). From there, the liquid mixture is supplied through line (25) to a separator (26), from which the separated water is added to the condensate of line (16) through line (27). The separated hydrocarbons are removed from the process via line (28). To the mixture of steam and C₂- to C₄-olefins, which is withdrawn from column (2) via line (5), the second partial stream of steam is added, which was branched off via line (4b), and the mixture is first of all supplied to the heat exchanger (6) before the further treatment explained in connection with Fig. 1 is performed.

Examples:

The procedure is as represented in the drawing, where the zeolite catalyst of the pentasil type has an atomic ratio Si:Al of 70. The feed mixture of Example 1 only contains hydrocarbons up to C₈, in Example 2 also higher hydrocarbons are processed.

Example 1:

In the process in accordance with Fig. 1, 100 000 kg/h of a feed mixture are supplied, whose composition is indicated in Table 1 and which has a temperature of 80°C:

Table 1:	Example 1	Example 2	A	B
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Non-cyclic C ₄ - to C ₈ -olefins (wt-%)	48.0	27.0	0.2	33.0
Non-cyclic C ₈ +-olefins (wt-%)	--	4.0	6.8	3.0
C ₄ - to C ₈ -paraffins (wt-%)	38.0	19.0	0.2	23.3
C ₈ +-paraffins (wt-%)	--	5.0	9.4	3.9
Aromatics (up to C ₈) (wt-%)	8.0	13.0	0.6	14.7
Aromatics (C ₈ +) (wt-%)	--	11.0	51.7	3.2
Cycloalkanes and cycloalkenes up to C ₈ (wt-%)	6.0	14.0	4.3	16.3
Cycloalkanes, cykloalkenes, polynaphthenes, C ₈ + (wt-%)	--	7.0	26.8	2.6

By supplying 150000 kg/h steam from line (4), the feed mixture is completely evaporated in column (2) and withdrawn from the top of column (2). The temperature and the pressure in various lines are indicated in Table 2.

Table 2:	Example 1	Example 2
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Line	Temperature (°C)	Pressure (bar)	Temperature (°C)	Pressure (bar)
5	111	1.7	111	1.7
7	420	1.5	420	1.5
9	490	1.4	490	1.4
12	440	1.2	440	1.2
13	170	1.1	170	1.1
13 a	145	4.2	145	4.2
17	121	4.0	121	4.0
19	121	4.0	121	4.0
16	117	1.8	117	1.8
4	117	1.75	117	1.75
25	--	--	114	1.8

The power of the compressor (14) is 17 MW, for direct cooling water is injected into the mixture between the condensing steps. The product mixture withdrawn from line (19), the hydrocarbons of which still are vaporous, has the composition indicated in Table 3:

Table 3:		Example 1	Example 2
Propylene	(wt-%)	16.3	12.8
Ethylene	(wt-%)	3.7	3.0
Butene	(wt-%)	12.2	9.4
Olefins, C ₄ to C ₈	(wt%)	2.4	5.4
Others	(wt%)	44.4	48.4
Steam	(wt-%)	21.0	21.0

Due to the compression of the reaction products 95 MW heat can thus be provided and a cooling capacity of likewise about 95 MW, which is required for pressurizing the water content in the product mixture, can be saved in that 17 MW of pressurizing power are provided.

Example 2:

The procedure is as shown in Fig. 2, and 100 000 kg/h of a feed mixture of 80°C and the composition indicated in Table 1 (above) are supplied to column (2) through line (1). This feed mixture has a higher content of high-boiling components than the feed mixture of Example 1. Through line (4a) 33 000 kg/h of process steam are supplied, where 83 wt-% of the feed mixture are evaporated and are withdrawn from the top of column (2). The non-evaporated rest of the feed mixture is withdrawn through line (25) together with aqueous condensate. The hydrocarbons (16970 kg/h) withdrawn via line (28) have the composition indicated in Table 1, column A. The condensate withdrawn through line (27) is introduced into line (16) and thus recirculated to the condensate circuit. The hydrocarbon

content of the mixture leaving column (2) at the top has the composition indicated in Table 1, column B. The ensuing process steps are analogous to those described in Example 1. The temperature and the pressure in the various lines are indicated in Table 2. 100000 kg/h steam are admixed to this mixture through line (4b), so that the steam content required in the reactor feed stream is achieved.

100000 kg/h steam

Claims

1. A process of producing C₂- to C₄-olefins from steam and a feed mixture containing C₄- to C₈-olefins, wherein the feed mixture containing steam is introduced into a reactor with an inlet temperature of 300 to 700°C, said reactor comprising a bed of granular, form-selective zeolite catalyst, wherein a product mixture containing steam and C₂- to C₄-olefins is withdrawn from the bed and is passed through at least one cooling means, characterized in that the vaporous product mixture coming from the cooling means (6) is pressurized and the pressure of the product mixture is increased by 0.3 to 7 bar, that the pressurized product mixture is passed through an indirect heat exchanger (15) and the product mixture is cooled therein to such an extent that a water-rich condensate is produced by releasing heat of condensation, that the product mixture containing condensate is introduced into a separator from which a water-rich condensate and, separate therefrom, a vaporous product mixture containing C₂- to C₄-olefins is withdrawn, that water-rich condensate coming from the separator is expanded and evaporated in the indirect heat exchanger by utilizing the heat of condensation previously released during condensation, that at least part of the steam is introduced from the indirect heat exchanger into a mixing chamber to which the feed mixture containing C₄- to C₈-olefins is supplied, and that a mixture containing steam is withdrawn from the mixing chamber, which mixture is heated and introduced into the reactor.
2. The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the feed mixture supplied to the reactor contains steam and hydrocarbons in a weight ratio of 0.5:1 to 3:1.

3. The process as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the product mixture coming from the cooling means (6) has a temperature of 60 to 200°C and a pressure of 0.5 to 3 bar and is still vaporous.
4. The process as claimed in claim 1 or any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the feed mixture supplied to the mixing chamber contains hydrocarbons with more than 8 C-atoms per molecule, that the mixing chamber is designed as column with a gas- and liquid-permeable packing, that the feed mixture is supplied onto the upper portion of the packing, and C₄- to C₈-olefins from the feed mixture are evaporated with a partial amount of the steam supplied to the column in the lower portion of the packing and are withdrawn from the column together with the steam.
5. The process as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that a liquid mixture containing water and hydrocarbons is withdrawn from the column, from which liquid mixture water is separated which is added to the expanded water-rich condensate before reaching the indirect heat exchanger.

Abstract

The feed mixture containing C₄- to C₈-olefins and steam is introduced into a reactor with an inlet temperature of 300 to 700°C, which reactor comprises a bed of granular, form-selective zeolite catalyst. A product mixture containing steam and C₂- to C₄-olefins is withdrawn from the bed, which product mixture is passed through at least one cooling means. The vaporous product mixture coming from the cooling means is pressurized and the pressure of the product mixture is increased by 0.3 to 7 bar. The pressurized product mixture is passed through an indirect heat exchanger and is cooled to such an extent that a water-rich condensate is produced by releasing heat of condensation. The product mixture containing condensate is introduced into a separator from which a water-rich condensate and, separate therefrom, a vaporous product mixture containing C₂- to C₄-olefins is withdrawn. The water-rich condensate is expanded and evaporated in the indirect heat exchanger by utilizing the heat of condensation previously released during condensation, where at least part of the steam is introduced into a mixing chamber to which a feed mixture containing C₄- to C₈-olefins is supplied.

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Fig.1

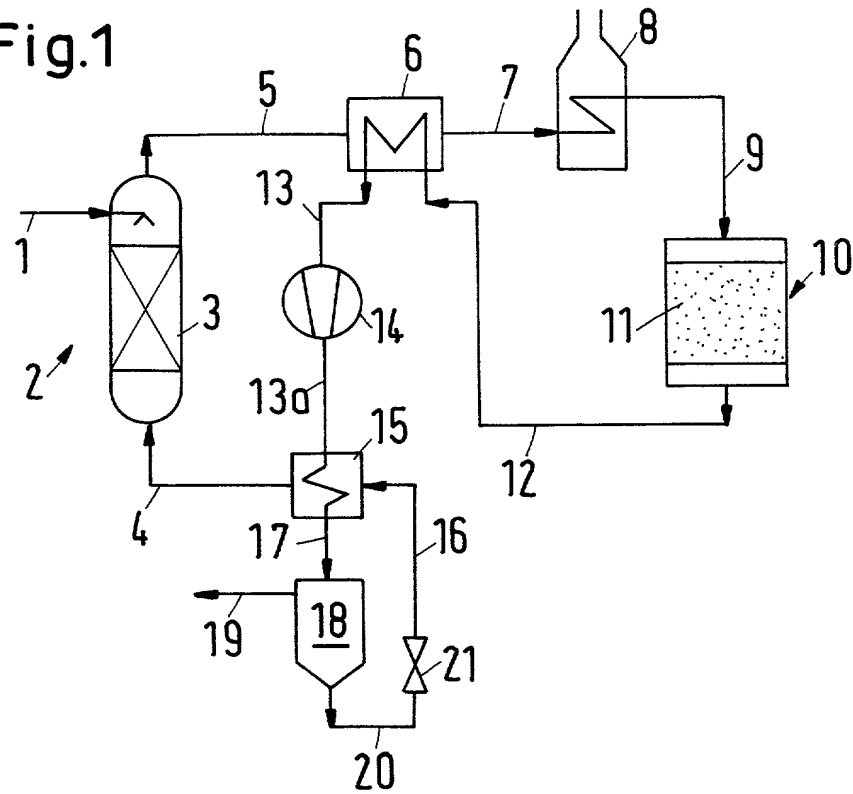
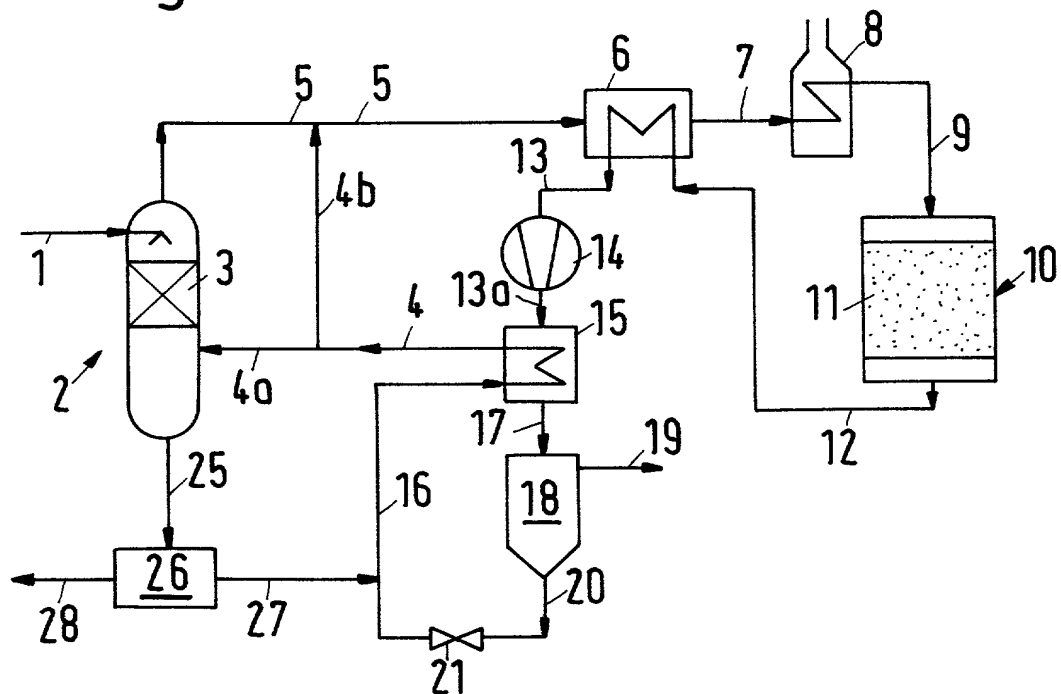


Fig. 2



COMBINATION DECLARATION & POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

PROCESS OF PRODUCING C₂- TO C₄-OLEFINS FROM A FEED MIXTURE CONTAINING C₄- TO C₈-OLEFINS

the specification of which was filed on January 11, 2002

as U.S. Serial No. 10/030,802, which is a 371 PCT/EP00/04960 and

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed
<u>199 33 063.8</u> (Number)	<u>Germany</u> (Country)	<u>15 July 1999</u> (Day/Month/Yr. Filed)	<u>x</u> yes ___ no
_____ (Number)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Day/Month/Yr. Filed)	___ yes ___ no

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented,pending,abandoned)
_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status) (patented,pending,abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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DATE:

RESIDENCE:

CITIZENSHIP:

FULL NAME OF SEVENTH INVENTOR:

INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE:

DATE:

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CITIZENSHIP:

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